Senate District R Senator

Elijah M. Verhagen, Registered Republican



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AGE: 32

PLACE OF BIRTH: Fairbanks, Alaska

SPOUSE'S NAME: Erin Verhagen

CHILDREN'S NAMES: Jacob Verhagen

OCCUPATION: Construction worker and

small businesses owner

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 30 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:

Nenana 1989-2002, 2005-2008, 2010-present, Fairbanks 2002-2004 and Juneau for legislative sessions only Jan-April 2011-2015, 2017, and 2020.

EDUCATION:

Graduated HS in 2007 with Raven Correspondence School; graduated from UAF in 2014 with Construction Management and BA Political Science degrees.

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:

Staff to Representatives Peggy Wilson, Lora Reinbold, Dave Talerico and Sharon Jackson. I was selected as a 2016 National Delegate for Alaska to the RNC in Cleveland Ohio. Elected and served as District 36 Republican Chair from Dec 2021-May 2022.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

Board member and foreman for United Builders Inc. Business partner for EVSquared small business.

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:

Served at food banks. Held various church service callings and positions. Helped with Nenana Restorative Justice programs and the Nenana Wellness Coalition.

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Hunting, fishing, motor sports, soccer, basketball, music, singing, snowboarding and movies/books.

STATEMENT:

I am a conservative, especially in fiscal matters. I believe in balanced budgets and living within our means. If we want more, we must first grow our revenue with investments, resource development, land sales, leases, etc., NOT by taxing the people more with an income tax.

We should conserve and be good stewards of our land and resources but we should use and develop them simultaneously as mentioned in our Alaska Constitution. I believe in conserving government structures, principles and ideas that have worked well for thousands of years, yet adapt with modern technology and added information and research. Scientific facts and common sense that we've known for thousands of years are eroding and must be defended. Conservatives believe that until new ideas are tried and proven for lengthy periods of time you don't pass them as law or mandates and then see how it works. Stability is much better than experimental economics and policies.

I support the full statutory PFD, it is the people's money regardless of what they choose to spend it on. I am pro-life, you can't have "Liberty" and pursue happiness if your "Life" is taken from you before birth. We must protect our unborn children and women simultaneously, it can be done. I am pro family, religious liberty and pro 2nd Amendment, it should not be infringed. I believe in representing and listening to all people in my district and won't be unreachable or apathetic in my duty serving you the people of district R.

The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and not endorsed by the Division of Elections. The text of this statement was provided and paid for by the candidate in accordance with AS 15.58.030 and 6 AAC 25.690.

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